

Statement of delegation of Thailand
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Madam Chair
High Commissioner,
Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the delegation of Thailand, I would like to first congratulate and the members of the Bureau for your success in steering the current session of the Executive Committee.

I would also like to express **appreciation to the UNHCR for its close cooperation** with the Government of Thailand to find durable solutions for different groups of forcibly displaced persons and all those who seek international protection. This year **marks the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights** and **half way for the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals**. It is, therefore, **high time** for the international community to **“Make a Real Difference”** and **ensure the right and dignity** of those forcibly displaced, so that we leave no one behind.

New emergencies around the world, on top of the existing and protracted crises, **reveal the stress of the international protection system**. Neighboring countries – most of which are low and middle income countries – are at the forefront in hosting those forcibly displaced by disasters and conflicts.

In this light, we cannot stress enough **the importance of international burden and responsibility sharing**, and the need to provide **more support and contribution to the host countries**. **Increased contribution** by States in the past year **is most welcome**. **Yet gap remains**. So we fully **support** the idea of **expanding partnership** for humanitarian missions to include private sector and social enterprise.

As a host and transit country ourselves, **Thailand continues to provide assistance** and shelter to various groups in need **and uphold the principle of non-refoulement**, which has been enshrined in the recently promulgated Anti-Torture and Enforced Disappearance Act 2022.

Thailand continues to take care of the 77,000 **Myanmar Displaced Persons**, thanks to the support from UNHCR and partner countries. **We look forward to facilitating durable solution** for this group of population **through partnership with resettlement countries**.

At the same time, Thailand has been providing humanitarian assistance and shelter **to new group of persons displaced** from the ongoing conflict in Myanmar. As next door neighbour, we hope to see cessation of violence by all parties, and the return of peace and stability to Myanmar as soon as possible. **We fully support ASEAN's efforts in this regard.**

Madam Chair

It is an exciting time for Thailand as **we recently launched** our **National Screening Mechanism (NSM)** for persons fleeing persecution. Those recognized as protected person under the NSM will be granted access to healthcare and, in case of children, to education. **In this pilot phase, we count on UNHCR's expertise and support**, in particular to strengthen the infrastructure of the mechanism, such as data system and interpretation, as well as capacity building for officers and formulation of relevant SOPs and modalities for data sharing. We are **committed to strengthening our referral and protection system**. Hence, we look forward to collaborating with partners and stakeholders, locally and internationally, and through the Asylum Capacity Support Group (ACSG).

Turning to our region, Thailand shares the deep concern over the **deteriorating livelihood in Rohingya camps in Bangladesh**, especially the decreasing budget for food ration. Last month, **Thailand contributed 28,500 USD** to the World Food Program (**WFP**) to alleviate the crisis. We **call on** the international community to immediately **respond** to this **funding gap**.

We also wish to flag that, apart from Bangladesh, which is hosting more than a million Rohingyas on its territory, many countries in Southeast Asia are also carrying out their responsibility as the host or transit country. **Cooperation and support** from the international community **in providing assistance and solutions** to the group **will be highly appreciated**.

Madam Chair

The upcoming **Global Refugee Forum** is an important opportunity to renew our commitment. Thailand looks forward to the GRF and **is open to cooperate** with partners to send a strong message of commitment including through collective pledges.

Lastly, Thailand **looks forward to welcoming the High Commissioner to Thailand next week**. Your visit will be the manifestation of the long-standing and close collaboration as well as constructive engagement between

UNHCR and Thailand. Together we will strive forward to ensure that those subjected to forcibly displacement receive the protection they need both in rights and in dignity.

Thank you, Madam Chair
